

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HISTORICAL LANDMARKS and RECORDS COMMISSION

383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration · 500 W. Temple Street, Room B-50, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 974-1431

Louis Skelton, CHAIRMAN · Stephen Sass, VICE CHAIRMAN Elysha D. Paluszek · Ivy Sun · Yolanda Duarte-White, COMMISSIONERS

July 12, 2013

Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 W. Temple Street, Room 383 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Hamai:

The Historical Landmarks and Records Commission (Commission) would like to support the creation of a website devoted to the dissemination of information related to the Commission. A website, or a landing page on a larger website, would be invaluable to the County of Los Angeles, the Board of Supervisors and to the Commission.

A website or landing page would provide the public with convenient access to information regarding the Commission and allow the public to keep abreast of issues brought before the Commission. In addition, it would raise awareness of historic preservation efforts in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, as well as, historical records maintained by the County. This is especially important at this point in the County's history, when it takes steps to implement a Mills Act program and seeks to adopt a historic preservation ordinance in the future. As these would be new resources available to residents in the unincorporated areas of the County, a website or landing page would be crucial in educating the public about these new resources and allow them easy access to information about the forthcoming Mills Act program. It would answer questions and quell the concerns that the residents might have about how the Mills Act and historic preservation ordinance would affect them.

A website or landing page would also provide a venue for the public to provide their feedback, express concerns related to historical landmarks and records kept by the County, and relay information about historical resources and records that are important to them that the County is not yet aware of. It could provide a central location for general information on historic preservation from the State and Federal Government, as well as, information on historic preservation and its incentives (whether financial or intangible in nature, such as the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program or intangible benefits, such as neighborhood pride that results from designation as a historic district).

Honorable Board of Supervisors July 12, 2013 Page 2

The Commission wholeheartedly supports the creation of a website or landing page as a platform for increased education and awareness of historic preservation and the preservation of historical records, in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

Sincerely,

Louis Skelton, Chairman

LS:bf

S:\CSTeam4\Historical Landmarks\Communications\Correspondence\2013 Outgoing Letters\ Letter to the Board - HLRC Website